

XXVIII. *Notes on various Central American Coleoptera : supplement.* By GEORGE CHARLES CHAMPION, F.Z.S.

[Read December 3rd, 1913.]

SINCE the publication of my Notes on Central American beetles (*antea*, pp. 58–169), three interesting new species of the Ptinid genus *Trichodesma*, all from one locality, Acapulco, on the western coast of Mexico, have been detected in the British Museum, and one new Dascillid, a *Scirtes*, from Guatemala, has been received from Mr. O. E. Janson. The present contribution includes a description of these insects, and is a supplement to my previous paper on the same subject.

Fam. PTINIDAE.

Trichodesma sublineata, n. sp.

Elongate, convex; piceous, the antennae and tarsi obscure ferruginous; variegated with a dense clothing of whitish and brown pubescence intermixed with long, erect, pallid hairs, the brown pubescence on the elytra condensed into interrupted lines which terminate abruptly in front of the anteriorly sinuate, sharply defined whitish apical patch, those near the suture becoming transversely coalescent posteriorly, the dorsal hump of the prothorax with two fulvous spots in front and two others behind, the spots separated by a whitish median line, the elytra with various matted tufts of erect blackish-brown hairs—one on the disc of each below the base (between which is a common, V-shaped, blackish-brown mark) and six in a common transverse row at about one-third from the apex, the humeri also with a small tuft of dark brown hairs. Head densely punctulate and subgranulate; antennae moderately long, joints 4–8 small, subequal, the dilated joints 9–11 elongate, 9 as long as 5–8 united. Prothorax transverse, the sides arcuate before the middle and sinuously, obliquely converging behind, the hind angles obliterated; finely granulate, the dorsal hump large, angular and compressed. Elytra a little wider than the

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prothorax, long, subparallel; coarsely, confusedly punctate on the disc, the punctures becoming seriatly arranged towards the sides.

Length $6\frac{1}{2}$, breadth 3 mm. (♀?)

Hab. W. MEXICO, Acapulco (*Höge*).

One specimen. Larger and broader than the N.-American *T. gibbosa*, Say; the prothorax relatively wider, distinctly sinuate at the sides posteriorly, and without tufts of matted hairs on the dorsal hump; the elytra interruptedly lineate with brown, and each with a conspicuous tuft of blackish-brown hairs on the disc below the base in a line with the common, V-shaped, sutural mark, and a common transverse series of six smaller tufts preceding the large, sharply-defined, whitish apical patch. It is just possible that this insect may prove to be referable to the unidentified Mexican *T. imperator*, Cast., but the latter has the base of the elytra differently marked, to judge from the brief description.

Trichodesma discigera, n. sp.

Elongate, convex; piceous, the antennae, mouth-parts, and tarsi obscure ferruginous; densely clothed with pale brown and whitish pubescence abundantly intermixed with very long, erect, pallid hairs; the elytra with a sharply-defined, large, common, rounded (somewhat saddle-shaped), sparsely fusco-pubescent space before the middle, followed by a broad, common, arcuate, irregular brown fascia (extending to the outer margin and enclosing a short oblique whitish streak on each elytron near the suture and several blackish spots), and also bearing several dense tufts of erect blackish hairs—one very large, oblong, placed at about one-third from the base, and just within the outer limit of the discoidal patch, and three in a transverse series at about the apical third, the inner one rather large, the others small—the humeri also with a dark spot. Head densely punctulate and subgranulate; antennae moderately long, joints 4–8 small, subequal, the dilated joints 9–11 elongate, 9 about as long as 5–8 united. Prothorax transverse, the sides strongly arcuate before the middle and sinuously, obliquely converging behind, the hind angles just traceable; finely, conspicuously granulate; the dorsal hump large, angular, and compressed, without definite matted tufts of hair, apparently lineate, due to the parting of the pubescence. Elytra much wider than the prothorax, long, subparallel; with irregular rows of very coarse, deep punctures, the larger tufts of hair arising from the third interstice.

Length $5\frac{1}{2}$, breadth $2\frac{2}{3}$ mm. (♀?)

Hab. W. MEXICO, Acapulco (Höge).

One specimen. This peculiar form must be nearly related to *T. sellata*, Horn, from Lower California [redescribed by Fall, in Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., xxxi, p. 175 (1905)], which has more numerous tufts of blackish hairs on the elytra (the one enclosed within the discoidal patch being probably more developed in the present species), and a tuft of short stiff brown hairs on the dorsal hump of the prothorax, this latter being absent in *T. discigera*.

Trichodesma convexa, n. sp.

Elongate, broad, robust; piceous, the antennae and the tips of the tarsi obscure ferruginous; variegated with brown, fulvous, and white pubescence, the white pubescence condensed into a transverse streak on each side of the depressed basal portion of the prothorax, and a narrow, interrupted, angulate, median fascia and a few small scattered spots on the elytra, the alternate interstices of the latter here and there set with dense oblong patches of slightly longer, semierect, dark brown hairs, the legs and antennae with long projecting hairs. Head densely punctulate and subgranulate, broadly hollowed down the middle; antennae moderately long, joints 4-8 small, subequal in length, 5 and 7 a little wider than 6 and 8, the dilated joints 9-11 long, 9 as long as 4-8 united. Prothorax broad, as wide as the elytra, the sides arcuate before the middle and obliquely, sinuously converging behind, the hind angles obliterated; finely granulate, the dorsal hump moderately developed, arcuate as seen in profile, and arising from near the base. Elytra long, convex, subparallel, the apices broadly produced and abruptly truncate, the humeri somewhat obtuse; rather coarsely punctate-striate, the interstices moderately convex, densely punctulate, and sparsely, finely granulate.

Length $6\frac{1}{4}$, breadth 3 mm. (♀)

Hab. W. MEXICO, Acapulco (Höge).

One specimen. The very broad prothorax, with rounded dorsal hump, the broadly produced, abruptly truncate apices of the elytra, and the absence of the usual long erect villosity from the upper surface of the body, give this insect a very different facies from most of the described species of *Trichodesma*. The Guatemalan *T. truncata*, Ch. (*antea*, p. 138), is, however, intermediate in this respect, and, like *T. convexa*, has a rather large, pentagonal, sharply margined mesosternal process, which is received in

repose between the somewhat widely separated anterior coxae.

Fam. DASCILLIDAE.

Scirtes planicornis, n. sp.

Rotundate-elliptic, somewhat depressed, shining; pitchy-black, the apices of the femora, the tibiae, and tarsi testaceous, the antennae testaceous, becoming gradually infusate towards the apex; finely pubescent. Head, prothorax, and scutellum closely, very minutely, punctate; head broad, the eyes large; antennae about as long as the body, joints 2 and 3 short, subtransverse, equal, 4-10 very elongate, flattened, considerably widened, becoming narrower towards the apex, 4 shorter than 5; prothorax short, convex, narrowing from the base, sharply margined; elytra thickly, finely punctate, the punctures much coarser than those on the prothorax, narrowly margined at the sides, the subhumeral callosities prominent.

Length $2\frac{1}{2}$, breadth $1\frac{1}{8}$ mm. (♂?)

Hab. GUATEMALA, San Gerónimo in Baja Vera Paz (*Champion*: Mus. Brit.).

One specimen, sent to the late M. Jacoby as a Halticid, and thus overlooked, till detected by Mr. O. E. Janson when the collection of that author passed into his hands. Amongst the 21 species of *Scirtes* enumerated by me from Central America in 1897 (Biol. Centr.-Am., Coleopt., iii, 1, pp. 606-617), *S. planicornis* can only be compared with *S. longicornis*, from Panama, which has a minute third antennal joint, etc.*

* The recently described *S. championi*, Picado, from Costa Rica, again, is a very different form.